England. - Parliament
H. of L. [Pres.-II.]

The Humble

ADDRESS

Of the Right Honourable the

Lords Spiritual & Tempora[l]

In Parliament Aſſembled,

Preſented to

HIS MAJESTY

On *Munday* the Twenty fourth Day of *March*, 1700.

AND

His Majeſties

MOST GRACIOUS

ANSWER

THEREUNTO.

LONDON,
Printed by *Charles Bill*, and the Executrix of *Thomas Newcomb*, deceas'd; Printers to the King's moſt Excellent Majeſty. 1701.

Die Martis 25° Martii, 1701.

IT is Ordered by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament Assembled, That the Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England *do give Order, that the Address of this House presented to His Majesty yesterday, and His Majesties most Gracious Answer thereunto, be forthwith Printed and Published.*

Matth. Johnson,
Cleric' Parliamentor'

The Humble ADDRESS

Of the Right Honourable the

Lords Spiritual and Temporal

In PARLIAMENT Assembled.

Die Jovis 20° Martii, 1700.

WE Your Majesties most Loyal and Dutiful Subjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament Assembled, having Read and Considered the Treaty of the $\frac{21st\ February.}{3d\ March.}$ 1700, made with the *French* King, together with the Separate and Secret Articles which Your Majesty has been pleased to Communicate to Us, do with all Humility Represent to Your Majesty, That to Our great Sorrow, We find the Matters thereof to have been of very ill Consequence to the Peace and Safety of *Europe*; for besides the Occasion it may have given to the Late King of *Spain* to have made his Will in Favour of the Duke of *Anjou*, if this Treaty had taken Effect, the Prejudice to Your Majesty, and Your Subjects, and indeed to all *Europe*, by the Addition of *Sicily*, *Naples*, several Ports in the *Mediterranean*, the Province of *Guipuscoa*, and the Dutchy of *Lorrain*, had been not only very great, but contrary to the Pretence of the Treaty it self, which was to prevent any Umbrage which might be taken by Uniting too many States and Dominions under one Head.

And by all the Informations we have yet had of the Progress of this Fatal Treaty, We cannot find that the Verbal Orders and Instructions (if any were given to Your Majesties Plenipotentiaries) were ever Considered in any of Your Majesties Councils; Or that the Draught of this Treaty was ever Laid before Your Majesty, at any Meeting of Your Council, much less that it was Advised or Approved by any Council or Committee of Council.

We therefore think Our Selves Obliged in Duty to Your Majesty, and Justice to Our Country, most humbly to beseech Your Majesty, That for the future Your Majesty will be pleased to

Require and Admit, in all Matters of Importance, the Advice of Your Natural born Subjects, whoſe known Probity and Fortunes may give Your Majeſty and Your People a Juſt Aſſurance of their Fidelity in Your Service; And in order hereunto to Conſtitute a Council of ſuch Perſons to whom Your Majeſty may be pleaſed to Impart all Affairs both at Home and Abroad, which may any way Concern Your Majeſty and Your Dominions: For as Intereſt and Natural Affection to their Country will Incline them to wiſh the Welfare and Proſperity of it, much more than others, who have not ſuch Ties upon them; And as their Experience and Knowledge of their Country will alſo render them more Capable than Strangers of Adviſing Your Majeſty in the True Intereſts of it, ſo We are very Confident that after ſuch Large and Repeated Demonſtrations of Your Subjects Duty and Affection, Your Majeſty cannot doubt of their Zeal in Your Service, nor want the Knowledge of Perſons fit to be imployed in all Your moſt Secret and Arduous Affairs.

And ſince it appears that the *French* King's Accepting of the King of *Spain*'s Will, is a Manifeſt Violation of this Treaty, We humbly Adviſe Your Majeſty, in future Treaties with the *French* King, to proceed with ſuch Caution as may carry along with it a Real Security.

His Majeſties moſt Gracious Anſwer to the Addreſs.

My Lords,

THIS Addreſs contains Matters of very great Moment. I will always take care that all Treaties I make ſhall be for the Honour and Safety of England.

F I N I S.